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02075228.3 21 January 2002 (21.01.2002) EP(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL];  
Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

(72) Inventors: and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STEK, Aalbert [NL/NL]; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). SCHEP, Cornelis, M. [NL/NL]; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). BLUM, Martinus, W. [NL/NL]; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(74) Agent: DEGUELLE, Wilhelmus, H., G.; Internationaal Octrooibureau B.V., Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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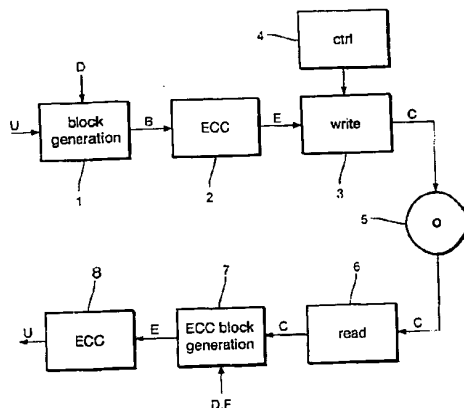
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(54) Title: METHOD OF ENCODING AND DECODING



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method of encoding user data into codevectors and to a corresponding method of decoding codevectors into user data. In order to be able to use the same ECC decoder for decoding of more than one type of data a method of encoding is proposed comprising the steps of: a) generating a first block of a fixed first number of data symbols by taking a fixed encoding is proposed comprising the steps of: a) generating a first block of a fixed first number of data symbols, and a fixed third number of dummy data symbols, and second number, being smaller than said first number, of user data symbols, in a predetermined order, b) encoding said first block of data by arranging said user data symbols and said dummy data symbols in a predetermined order, said codeword comprising said first symbols using an ECC encoder (2) to obtain a codeword having a fixed number of symbols, said codeword comprising said first block of data symbols and a second block of a fixed fourth number of parity symbols, and c) generating a codevector by selecting a fifth predetermined number of user data symbols and a sixth predetermined number of parity symbols from said codeword, the sum of said fifth and sixth number being predetermined and smaller than the sum of said second and fourth number.

WO 03/061139 A2



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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

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European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Van Staveren, M

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| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |  |                       |
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| A  | <p>VAN DIJK M ET AL: "Coding for informed decoders"<br/>PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2001 IEEE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INFORMATION THEORY. ISIT 2001. WASHINGTON, WA, JUNE 24 - JUNE 29, 2001, IEEE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INFORMATION THEORY, NEW YORK, NY : IEEE, US, 24 June 2001 (2001-06-24), pages 202-202, XP010552812<br/>ISBN: 0-7803-7123-2<br/>page 202, column 1, line 1 - column 2, last line</p> <p>-----</p> | 1,2,<br>10-14         |
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